

The ANGLICAN CHURCH of ST PAUL  
CANTERBURY

**SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS  
ADVENT 2017**



Sunday, 17th of December, 8:00 p.m.

Preludes:

**“Fugue in F maj & Fugue in Bb maj (Fugues for Alto Blockfute and Organ)”**

Music: G.F. Handel

**“Allegro (Sonata No.4 in F maj)”**

Music: G.F. Handel

Please remain seated, while, from the porch, the choir sings the **Introit Carol**:

**“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”**

Music: Plainsong Melody

Arranged: J. H. Arnold

Please stand for the **Processional Hymn**:

**"Once in Royal David's City"**

**Solo**

1. Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

**Choir**

2. He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, despised and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**All**

3. **And through all his wondrous  
childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be mild  
Obedient, good as he.**

4. **For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day, like us he grew,  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.**

5. **And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in Heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place, where he is gone.**

6. **Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars his children crowned,  
All in white shall wait around.**

Words: C. F. Alexander

Music: H. J. Gauntlet

Descant: Sir D. Willcocks

Please be seated to hear the **Bidding** and to say the Lord's Prayer.

Welcome to our Advent Carol service.

Tonight we will journey together in this season of Advent.

The word 'Advent' derives from the Latin word meaning 'coming'. It is a time of joy and expectation as we await the birth of Jesus the Christ. And yet, we also know that Jesus has come among us, has brought his message of hope and freedom, and died on the cross and rose again and is present in the world today and that He will come again.

At the beginning of this service tonight, we lit the four blue candles symbolising Hope, Love, Joy and Peace and the white candle representing Christ the one we long for!

The light of the candles remind us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives to bring newness, life and hope. It also reminds us that we are called to be a light to the world as we reflect the light of God's grace to others.

As we enter this time of worship through word, music, silence, and visual aids, may the flickering of each candle remind us that something is happening and that more is yet to come!

First, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land upon which we meet.

Let us pray for the needs of the whole world;

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

whose parents found no room in the inn; we pray for all who are homeless.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

born in a stable; we pray for all who are living in poverty.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

rejected stranger; we pray for all who are lost, alone, all who cry for loved ones.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

whom Herod sought to kill; we pray for all who live with danger, all who are persecuted.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

a refugee in Egypt; we pray for all who are far from their homes.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,

in you the Eternal was pleased to dwell; help us, we pray, to see the divine image in people everywhere.

*'Holy Child of Bethlehem'-David Blanchflower  
All Year Round (British Council of Churches 1987)*

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us around the world who will be kneeling before the Christ-child and seeing him anew this Christmas.

Let us now bring our prayers together and say the Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name.  
your kingdom come.  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil:  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

Please sit while the choir sings the **Invitatory Carol**:

**“All My Heart This Night Rejoices”**

Words: P. Gerhardt  
Music: J.G. Ebeling

**First Lesson** Genesis 3: 9, 8-15 (NRSV)

The fall of humankind in the Garden of Eden  
(Reader: Christopher Hall)

**Carol:**

**“The Nobel Stem of Jesse”**

Melody: M. Praetorius

**Second Lesson** Isaiah 40: 1-8 (NRSV)

God will strengthen and help his people  
(Reader: Roxanne Addley)

**Hymn:**

**“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”**

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| <p>1. Of the Father’s love begotten,<br/>Ere the worlds began to be,<br/>He is Alpha and Omega,<br/>He the source, the ending He,<br/>Of the things that are, that have been,<br/>And that future years shall see,<br/>Evermore and evermore!</p> <p>2. O that birth forever blessed,<br/>When the Virgin, full of grace,<br/>By the Holy Ghost conceiving,<br/>Bore the Saviour of our race;<br/>And the Babe, the world’s Redeemer,<br/>First revealed His sacred face,<br/>Evermore and evermore!</p> | <p>3. This is He Whom seers and sages<br/>Sang of old with one accord,<br/>Whom the voices of the prophets<br/>Promised in their faithful word;<br/>Now He shines, the long expected,<br/>Let creation praise its Lord,<br/>Evermore and evermore!</p> <p>4. In the heights of heaven adore him,<br/>Angel hosts his praises sing,<br/>All dominions bow before him<br/>And extol our God and King;<br/>Let no tongue on earth be silent,<br/>Every voice in concert sing<br/>Evermore and Evermore!</p> |
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Melody: Piae Cantiones

**Third Lesson** Isaiah 9: 2,6-7 (NRSV)

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour

(Reader: Lexie Rough)

**Carol:**

**“In The Bleak Mid-Winter”**

Words: C. Rossetti  
Music: G. Holst  
Arranged: C. Bennett

**Fourth Lesson** Isaiah 11: 1-9 (NRSV)

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown

(Reader: Tom Lambert)

**Hymn:**

**“O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shining  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in you tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together Proclaim  
the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to all on earth.
3. How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him,  
Still The dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Words: Bishop P. Brooks

Music: English traditional

Arranged: R. Vaughan Williams

Descant: C. Gower

**Carol:**

**“Myn Liking”**

Words: 15<sup>th</sup> Century

Music: R.R. Terry

**Fifth Lesson St Matthew 3: 1-11 (NSRV)**

The proclamation of John the Baptist

(Reader: Laura Kaspen)

**Canticle:**

**“Magnificat”**

Setting: H. Sumsion in A

**Sixth Lesson Luke 1: 26-38 (NRSV)**

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Reader: Jonathan Chambers)

**Carol:**

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”**

Music: Polish Carol  
Arranged: Sir D. Willcocks

**Hymn:**

**“Hark the Herald”**

1. **Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies.  
With the angelic host proclaim  
‘Christ is born in Bethlehem!’  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

2. **Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord.  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

3. **Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His throne on high,  
Born that we no more may die  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

Words: C. Wesley  
Music: F. Mendelssohn  
Descant: Sir D. Willcocks

**Seventh Lesson St Luke 2: 1-7 (NRSV)**

The birth of Jesus

(Reader: Cassandra Hurley)

**Carol:**

**“The Shepherds’ Farewell”**

*(From L’enfance du Christ’ Op. 25)*

Words: P. England

Music: H. Belioz

**Hymn:**

**“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”**

1. **While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around.**
2. **‘Fear not,’ said he (for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind),  
‘glad tidings of great joy I bring  
you and all humankind.**
3. **‘To you in David’s town this day  
is born of David’s line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:**
4. **‘the heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swaddling clothes  
and in a manger laid.’**
5. **thus spark the Seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:**
6. **‘All glory be to God on high,  
And on the earth be peace;  
Good-will henceforth from heaven to me  
Begin and never cease.’**

Words: N. Tate

Music: E. Psalter

**Eighth Lesson St Luke 2: 8-16 (NRSV)**

The shepherds go to the manger

(Reader: Jeremy Bishop)

**Carol:**

**“This Little Babe”**

From: A Ceremony of Carols

Words: R. Southwell

Music: B. Britten

All stand for the **Ninth Lesson St John 1: 1-14 (NRSV)**

St John unfolds the Mystery of the Incarnation

(Reader: Reverend Susanne Chambers)

*The offertory tonight will go to Mmanagas Parish in Malawi. This is a very poor parish school and the funds will go towards a building a separate toilet for the girls so they can attend school.*

**Hymn:**

**“O come all ye faithful”**

1. **O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***
  
2. **God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, Begotten, not created.  
*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

3. See how the Shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with holy fear;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*
  
4. Child for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love:  
Who would not love thee,  
Loving us so dearly?  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*
  
5. Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
"Glory to God  
Glory in the highest".  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

Words: Possibly by J. F. Wade  
Music: Sir D. Willcocks

### **Closing Prayer**

Gracious God, you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son:  
as we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,  
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,  
whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

And so, may the songs of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the joy of the Christ Child be in your hearts this Advent and Christmas.

And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Organ Recessional:

### **“Prelude on Adeste Fideles Op.182”**

Music: C.V. Stanford

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The Reverend Susanne, the Vicarage Family and the Choir wish you all a Happy, Safe and Holy Christmas.

Please Retain this Order of Service as a reminder of St Paul's Christmas Services.

<p><b><i>Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of December:</i></b> <b><i>Christmas Eve</i></b> 5.00 p.m. Children's Christingle Service. 11.00 p.m. Midnight Mass.</p> <p><b><i>Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of December:</i></b> <b><i>Christmas Day</i></b> 9.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist with carols.</p>
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As many people take holidays at this time, there will be only one 9.00 am Service for the four Sundays after Christmas. Our normal Service times (8.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m.) resume on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Our choir and Sunday School program also resume on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018.

The 10.00 a.m. Wednesday Eucharist (followed by a cuppa) recommences on January 24<sup>th</sup> 2018.

<p><b>Vicar:</b> The Reverend Susanne Chambers <b>Director of Music:</b> Trevor Henley <b>Organist:</b> Greg Ellsmore</p>
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